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M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: February 12, 1986
TO: File
FROM: Jane Anderson *JA*
SUBJECT: Illinois/R05-8410-01B/IL0367
South Chicago Heights/Caravelle Wood Products Inc.
ILD005083332

On August 26, 1985 an E & E Field Investigation Team inspected Caravelle Wood Products Inc. in South Chicago Heights, Cook County Illinois. The facility manufactures wooden kitchen cabinets. An aspect of the manufacturing process involves the application of stains, varnishes, sealers, and/or lacquers to the wood product. Some of the application materials (varnish, stain, etc.) contain hazardous substances such as butyl acetate, xylene, toluene, and ethyl benzene. Essentially all the materials applied to the wood is part of the finished product, however, a small amount of varnish, stain, etc. is oversprayed onto a corrugated cardboard pallet. According to the president of Caravelle, approximately 35 cardboard pallets are disposed of at the end of a one month period along with other trash.

The pallets are placed into a dumpster of five cubic yards capacity. During the inspection, the dumpster was observed to be in sound condition and sealed with a removeable lid. The location of the dumpster was in an unfenced, paved area to the side of the facility.

The physical state of such a waste type is consolidated and stabilized, according to an E & E Chemist. As the materials on the pallets dry they polymerize and if solvents and mineral spirits are present in the materials they volatilize.

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



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The facility has an average slope of less than 3%. The surrounding area is mixed farmland and residential with the center of the city of South Chicago Heights located to the north. The site is separated from water bodies by areas of higher elevation. The drinking water supply at the facility is from the South Chicago Heights city wells.

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